DIADIN 3234-75
10 DECEMBER 1975

~~SECRET~~

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE NOTICE

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Date: *Oct 17, 2018*

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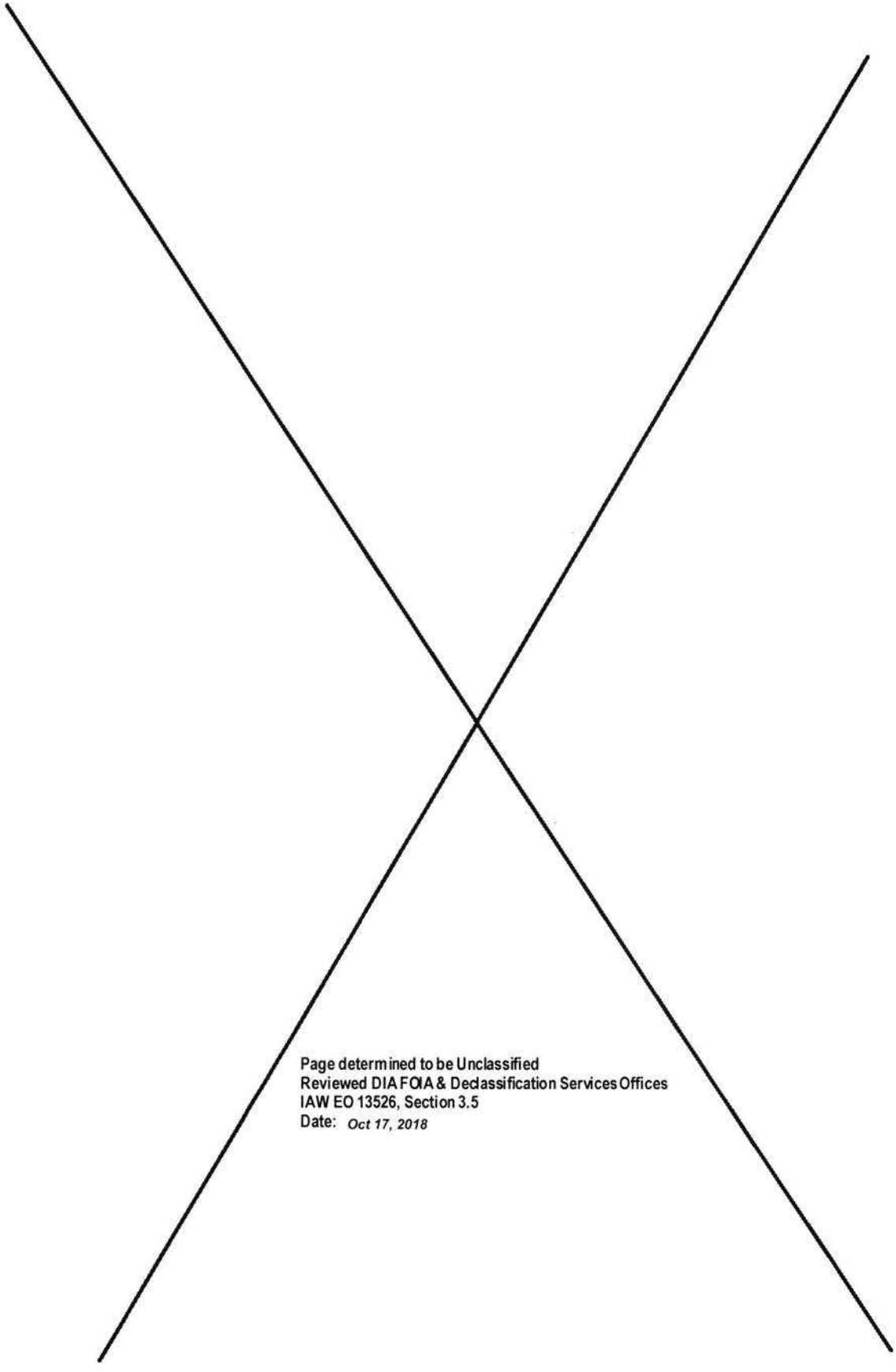

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This Notice is designed to provide intelligence in support of future decisions with respect to security policy or posture.

ARGENTINA

MONTONEROS CHALLENGE THE ARMY.

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~~(C/NOFORN/WNINTEL)~~ In reaction to a stepped-up joint military campaign against terrorism, the leftist Montoneros claim they are prepared to take on the armed forces nationwide and defeat them in a war of attrition.

~~(C)~~ In mid-November, security-force operations to crush the guerrillas were initiated countrywide. Activity is concentrated in Tucuman Province, where the air force has conducted two daily sorties -- including ~~aerial~~ reconnaissance, troop support, and air strikes -- since 12 November. [redacted] limited bomb damage assessments preclude full details of mission successes.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

~~(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)~~ The Montoneros claim several hundred thousand sympathizers -- some organized in urban cadres -- high morale, and a capability to confront the armed forces successfully. They are most successful in hit-and-run actions, having only infrequently challenged the military services directly. The guerrillas most likely have less support than claimed and need to enlarge their membership before taking on the military.

~~(C/NOFORN/WNINTEL)~~ The armed forces, although divided on how to cope with mounting terrorist violence, see leftist activities as damaging their image. Recent statements have called for the initiation of full-scale war on terrorism, but most military officers seem content to counter guerrillas at a steady pace. Moreover, rightist guerrillas, whose activities are equally reprehensible, are often ignored by security forces, some of whom may secretly sympathize with them. For the near term, continued violence can be expected as the executive and military commit themselves publicly to full-scale war but privately seek only containment.
~~(XGDS-2 Declassify upon notification of originator)~~

PREPARED BY:

[redacted] (b)(3):10 USC 424

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